

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A carrier for a long arm firearm, the carrier having an open position and a closed position, comprising a handle and a single strand of wire bent to form two saddles to grip and support the a firearm and having a ~~closed-end~~ straight-line section and an open end section.

Claim 2 (currently amended). A carrier in accordance with claim 1 wherein the open end section of the wire is removably attached to the handle.

Claim 3 (currently amended). A carrier in accordance with claim 2 wherein the handle has a longitudinal slot to receive the ~~closed-end~~ straight-line section of the wire to provide the closed position.

Claim 4 (currently amended). A carrier in accordance with claim 1 wherein the open end section has two legs with each leg extending toward the other along a centerline and ~~ending~~ terminating at an end of the wire, the handle is cylindrically-shaped and has a first shelf at each end to support the wire near the open end section, and a hole at each end to receive a leg of the open end section at each end of the handle.

Claim 5 (currently amended). A carrier in accordance with claim 3 ~~4~~ further comprising a bushing at each end of the handle centered on the center line of the handle engaging a portion

of the wire near the open ~~end~~ section to hold the leg of the open ~~end~~ section at each end of the handle in the respective receiving hole.

Claim 6 (previously presented). A carrier in accordance with claim 5 further comprising a washer at each end of the handle, each washer having a diameter greater than the diameter of the bushing and centered on the center line of the handle, each washer being on the side of the bushing away from the wire and pushing against a bushing when in place, and a screw at each end of the handle centered on the center line of the handle that holds the washer and bushing in place when screwed into the handle.

Claim 7 (currently amended). A carrier in accordance with claim 6 further comprising a tubular member on ~~the front member of the wire and the back member of the wire~~ each saddle formed in the wire.

Claim 8 (currently amended). A carrier for a long arm firearm comprising a wire bent to cradle and hold the firearm in a position to be carried by one hand, the wire having an open ~~end~~ section and a ~~closed-end~~ straight-line section, and a cylindrical handle attached to the open ~~end member~~ section of the wire and having a longitudinal slot along a chord of the circular cross-section of the handle to receive the ~~closed-end member~~ straight-line section of the wire, the handle further having at each end a first shelf to support the wire near the open ~~end~~ section and a second longitudinal shelf extending from the slot along the chord of the handle on which the bottom surface of the slot is located.

Claim 9 (currently amended). A carrier in accordance with claim 8 wherein the handle has a third shelf on the same chord as the second shelf for supporting a portion of the wire near the ~~closed-end~~ straight-line section and wherein the washer at each end guides the wire at of the ~~closed-end~~ straight-line section onto the second shelf and into the slot.